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South Dakota
Labor Bulletin

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Employment Trends Provide Economic Perspective

Historical employment trends provide a perspective of where South Dakota's economy has been and perhaps can lend some insight into where these trends may lead in the future. In the last five years, South Dakota's employment trends have been impacted by business openings and expansions, new physical and mental health programs, specialization in health services, new technology, increased competition, new state and national legislation, and increasing tourism.

The most comprehensive data base on empoyment trends is the covered (by unemployment insurance) employment and earnings data. The number of employees covered by unemployment insurance is equivalent to approximately 92 percent of South Dakota's wage and salaried workers. South Dakota wage and salaried workers who are not covered by South Dakota unemployment insurance law include railroad employees; state and local government elected officials; work-study students; and religious organization employees. (Some religious organizations may opt to provide unemployment insurance coverage to their employees.) Some employers who do not meet the minimum payroll and employment level criteria to be covered by unemployment insurance law are also not included in this employment data base.

In this article, we will explore the three industry divisions with the largest employment in the state and attempt to highlight what factors impacted employment trends in these industries.

Service Industry Division

The services industry division employs the most workers in the state. From 1987 through 1991, this division increased employment by 22.6 percent (or 12,283 workers). The amusement and recreation services industry group had the largest percentage of employment growth (49.5 percent) within this division. Much of the employment growth within amusement and recreation services was due to the influx of new businesses when gambling was legalized in the state. In addition, tourism in South Dakota has flourished because of such events as the 50th anniversaries of the Sturgis Bike Rally and Mount Rushmore. With the number of tourists on the rise, the amusement and recreation services industry group hired additional employees.

The lodging industry group, within the services industry division, also increased in employment over the last five years (38.4 percent). Once again the increased number of tourists within the state boosted employment levels as this industry group expanded existing establishments and built new facilities to accommodate them.

The social services industry group had an employment increase of 30 percent from 1987 through 1991. Much of the growth within the social services industry group occurred because of increased employment in individual and family care services. The rise in employment within individual and family care services can be attributed to the need for counseling to help people deal with the pressures of every day life. In addition, residential care services (which serve aging people, those with chemical dependencies, and emotionally and physically handicapped people) grew because of the number of establishments in this sector increased due to the demand for these services.

The health services industry group increased in employment by 20 percent from 1987 through 1991. The expansion of services offered by several regional medical centers within the state helped boost employment. South Dakota's aging population has made greater use of the available health services, and this has also contributed to the employment growth within this industry group.

Retail Trade Industry Division

The second largest employer in the state is the retail trade industry division. This division had an employment increase of 17.3 percent (or 8,756 workers) from 1987 through 1991. All industry groups within the retail trade division experienced employment growth. This growth can be attributed to store expansions to remain competitive and the opening of new stores within the state.

The general merchandise stores industry group had the largest employment increase (44.4 percent) from 1987 through 1991. Department stores and the miscellaneous general merchandise stores contributed to the majority of the employment growth in this industry group. Most of the employment growth within these stores can be attributed to the expansion and opening of new stores within the state. Existing department stores found that they had to expand goods and services to remain competitive with new national and regional chain stores which moved into the state from 1987 through 1991. A majority of the new general merchandise department stores that opened in South Dakota during this time period were variety stores which offer a mix of goods at affordable prices.

The eating and drinking establishments industry group, within the retail trade industry division, had an increase in employment of 18.4 percent from 1987 through 1991. Again, the introduction of legalized gambling caused the majority of this employment increase. The location of legalized gambling in eating and drinking establishments has resulted in the need for workers who are at least 21 years of age. Restaurants which offer more services and products to attract customers have also contributed to employment growth within the eating and drinking establishments industry group.

The food stores industry group increased employment (14.7 percent) from 1987 through 1991. Efforts by grocery stores to provide one-stop shopping has led to increased employment in this industry group. Grocery stores expanded to include a better selection and larger variety of food products, as well as offering nonfood products and services.

The furniture industry group increased in covered employment (10.8 percent) from 1987 through 1991. Much of this employment increase was in the electronics and computer stores sector of this industry group. Because of technological advancements in the products sold by these stores, they have had to hire specialized staff to sell and sometimes service their products.

Government

Government was the third largest employer in South Dakota in 1991. From 1987 through 1991, this industry division had a covered annual average employment increase of 6.3 percent (or 3,257 workers).

Within government, local government-education had an employment increase of 7.4 percent from 1987 through 1991. The largest year-to-year employment change occurred from 1990 to 1991 with an increase of 510 employees. While some schools have closed in less-populated areas, increased enrollments and students with special needs in the remaining schools resulted in more faculty and teacher aides being hired. Also, the staffing of new programs in the school curriculum resulted in additional employment.

Local government-noneducation had a 6.8 percent increase in employment from 1987 through 1991. A majority of the employment growth in local government-noneducation occurred in law enforcement, parks and recreation, and hospitals.

From 1987 through 1991, state government-education also had an employment growth of 15.4

percent. Much of this employment growth can be attributed to the additional student laborers working at South Dakota's post-secondary schools.

State government-noneducation experienced a 4.4 percent increase in annual average employment from 1987 through 1991. Individual and family social services contributed to most of the employment growth. Some examples of the social services provided are: adult day care centers for the elderly and disabled, homemaker services, self-help organizations for alcoholics and gamblers, nonresident alcoholism counseling services, counseling centers, and family counseling services.

Another large contributor to the employment growth in state government-noneducation is public order and safety. Increased law enforcement demands because of changes in state and national legislation and increased population have caused the need for additional state police and highway patrol.

For Additional Information...

If you have found this article interesting and would like to read a historical trend analysis of other industries, you might be interested in obtaining a copy of the **Employment and Earning Covered by Unemployment Insurance** publication. This publication is produced by the Labor Market Information Center, of the South Dakota Department of Labor, and contains information on historical trend analysis for all industry divisions within the state. In addition, this publication also contains information on annual average covered employment, average annual earnings, employee turnover and employer size.

To order a copy of the **Employment and Earnings Covered by Unemployment Insurance** publication, call or write to the address on the back cover of this publication.

Highlights of South Dakota's Labor Market in July

Labor Force Data

The seasonally adjusted South Dakota labor force in July 1992 was 358,200, with 347,400 employed and 10,800 unemployed. The unemployment rate dropped to 3.0 percent, a decrease from the June rate of 3.5 percent. Data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) indicates that most of the employment increase in July occurred among teenagers. It appears that many of the teenagers that began seeking summer employment last month have found jobs.

Nonfarm Employment Changes

The July nonfarm wage and salary employment level dropped to 305,700 with a loss of 4,600 jobs (or 1.5 percent). These levels traditionally drop from June to July. This year was no exception as the state experienced a job decrease.

The construction industry continued its strong showing this summer, leading all industry groups with the largest percentage employment growth from last month of 4.4 percent.

The number of jobs in government decreased 5,300 due to a seasonally expected downturn in educational employment. The division of local government had the major portion of this decrease followed by state government. Cafeteria workers, bus drivers, and other employees who were on June payrolls are no longer working in July.

The services industry declined 300 jobs over the month. The educational services sector followed the same trend as state and local education with the loss of 800 jobs. Travel and tourism continued to spur seasonal employment increases in the sector of hotels/motels and amusements, which added 500 jobs. The addition of these 500 jobs softened the impact of the 800 job decrease in educational services.

The wholesale trade industry did not perform as seasonally expected during the month of July. A wet and cool summer apparently delayed the hiring of seasonal workers to detassel corn for seed companies. This seasonal activity has started but not to the extent that is customary for the month of July.

Compared to a year ago...

Over the year, 5,200 new nonfarm wage and salaried jobs were added in the state, for a growth rate of 1.7 percent. The economy of South Dakota is performing much better than the nation as a whole. Nationally, the over-the-year job growth was 0.4 percent. Manufacturing was the fastest growing industry group in the state with a 6.2 percent growth rate, adding 2,200 jobs.

Labor Force

	July 1992[1]				July 1991			
	Seasonally Adjusted							
	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
United States	**127,532,000**	**117,772,000**	**9,760,000**	**7.7**	**125,204,000**	**116,729,000**	**8,475,000**	**6.8**
South Dakota	**358,200**	**347,400**	**10,800**	**3.0**	**359,700**	**347,700**	**12,000**	**3.3**
	Not Seasonally Adjusted							
Sioux Falls MSA	78,078	76,595	1,483	1.9	77,081	75,443	1,638	2.1
Rapid City MSA	42,065	40,891	1,174	2.8	42,778	41,394	1,384	3.2
Aurora	1,453	1,434	19	1.3	1,447	1,432	15	1.0
Beadle	8,338	8,135	203	2.4	8,560	8,291	269	3.1
Bennett	1,388	1,323	65	4.7	1,410	1,331	79	5.6
Bon Homme	3,500	3,457	43	1.2	3,611	3,522	89	2.5
Brookings	14,942	14,395	547	3.7	15,139	14,503	636	4.2
Brown	19,586	18,925	661	3.4	19,420	18,676	744	3.8
Brule	2,584	2,529	55	2.1	2,681	2,614	67	2.5
Buffalo	485	421	64	13.2	473	402	71	15.0
Butte	3,257	3,096	161	4.9	3,337	3,221	116	3.5
Campbell	1,015	990	25	2.5	1,060	1,023	37	3.5
Charles Mix	4,092	4,046	46	1.1	3,973	3,833	140	3.5
Clark	1,736	1,674	62	3.6	1,859	1,810	49	2.6
Clay	7,005	6,735	270	3.9	6,901	6,622	279	4.0
Codington	12,360	12,100	260	2.1	12,394	11,930	464	3.7
Corson	1,407	1,130	277	19.7	1,431	1,118	313	21.9
Custer	4,868	4,803	65	1.3	5,011	4,954	57	1.1
Davison	8,890	8,751	139	1.6	9,196	9,036	160	1.7
Day	3,017	2,959	58	1.9	3,225	3,131	94	2.9
Deuel	2,161	2,104	57	2.6	2,226	2,170	56	2.5
Dewey	2,086	1,738	348	16.7	2,059	1,664	395	19.2
Douglas	1,614	1,542	72	4.5	1,613	1,594	19	1.2
Edmunds	2,010	1,907	103	5.1	2,027	1,971	56	2.8
Fall River	3,341	3,242	99	3.0	3,332	3,213	119	3.6
Faulk	1,125	1,112	13	1.2	1,140	1,128	12	1.1
Grant	4,079	3,957	122	3.0	4,199	4,086	113	2.7
Gregory	2,420	2,398	22	.9	2,385	2,356	29	1.2
Haakon	1,091	1,074	17	1.6	1,123	1,079	44	3.9
Hamlin	2,562	2,495	67	2.6	2,398	2,356	42	1.8
Hand	1,839	1,784	55	3.0	1,888	1,826	62	3.3
Hanson	1,377	1,345	32	2.3	1,424	1,374	50	3.5
Harding	711	692	19	2.7	760	752	8	1.1
Hughes	8,702	8,557	145	1.7	8,392	8,220	172	2.0

Labor Force

	July 1992[1]				July 1991			
	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Hutchinson	4,419	4,381	38	.9	4,215	4,168	47	1.1
Hyde	767	744	23	3.0	811	782	29	3.6
Jackson	1,844	1,806	38	2.1	1,862	1,817	45	2.4
Jerauld	1,079	1,047	32	3.0	1,121	1,082	39	3.5
Jones	678	672	6	.9	719	704	15	2.1
Kingsbury	2,728	2,635	93	3.4	2,732	2,670	62	2.3
Lake	4,978	4,742	236	4.7	4,985	4,817	168	3.4
Lawrence	13,544	13,137	407	3.0	14,565	14,118	447	3.1
Lincoln	7,318	7,121	197	2.7	7,356	7,235	121	1.6
Lyman	1,404	1,330	74	5.3	1,592	1,478	114	7.2
McCook	2,717	2,655	62	2.3	2,824	2,743	81	2.9
McPherson	1,565	1,478	87	5.6	1,501	1,488	13	.9
Marshall	2,329	2,261	68	2.9	2,307	2,267	40	1.7
Meade	10,194	9,958	236	2.3	10,007	9,704	303	3.0
Mellette	767	729	38	5.0	797	772	25	3.1
Miner	1,272	1,240	32	2.5	1,457	1,444	13	.9
Minnehaha	78,078	76,595	1,483	1.9	77,081	75,443	1,638	2.1
Moody	3,627	3,340	287	7.9	3,374	3,098	276	8.2
Pennington	42,065	40,891	1,174	2.8	42,778	41,394	1,384	3.2
Perkins	2,180	2,122	58	2.7	2,274	2,183	91	4.0
Potter	1,427	1,384	43	3.0	1,391	1,369	22	1.6
Roberts	4,255	4,123	132	3.1	4,613	4,408	205	4.4
Sanborn	1,034	1,021	13	1.3	1,053	1,041	12	1.1
Shannon	2,071	1,698	373	18.0	1,970	1,551	419	21.3
Spink	3,379	3,292	87	2.6	3,441	3,340	101	2.9
Stanley	1,464	1,431	33	2.3	1,381	1,354	27	2.0
Sully	753	741	12	1.6	788	775	13	1.6
Todd	2,393	2,203	190	7.9	2,365	2,151	214	9.0
Tripp	3,170	3,103	67	2.1	3,220	3,146	74	2.3
Turner	3,901	3,837	64	1.6	5,122	5,048	74	1.4
Union	8,224	7,867	357	4.3	6,545	6,363	182	2.8
Walworth	2,753	2,685	68	2.5	2,879	2,817	62	2.2
Yankton	10,481	10,291	190	1.8	10,630	10,342	288	2.7
Ziebach	1,295	1,241	54	4.2	1,191	1,107	84	7.1
SOUTH DAKOTA	365,200	354,700	10,500	2.9	367,000	355,500	11,600	3.2

[1] Preliminary data subject to revision.
[2] Labor force estimates include employed and unemployed civilians 16 years old and older by place of residence.
Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

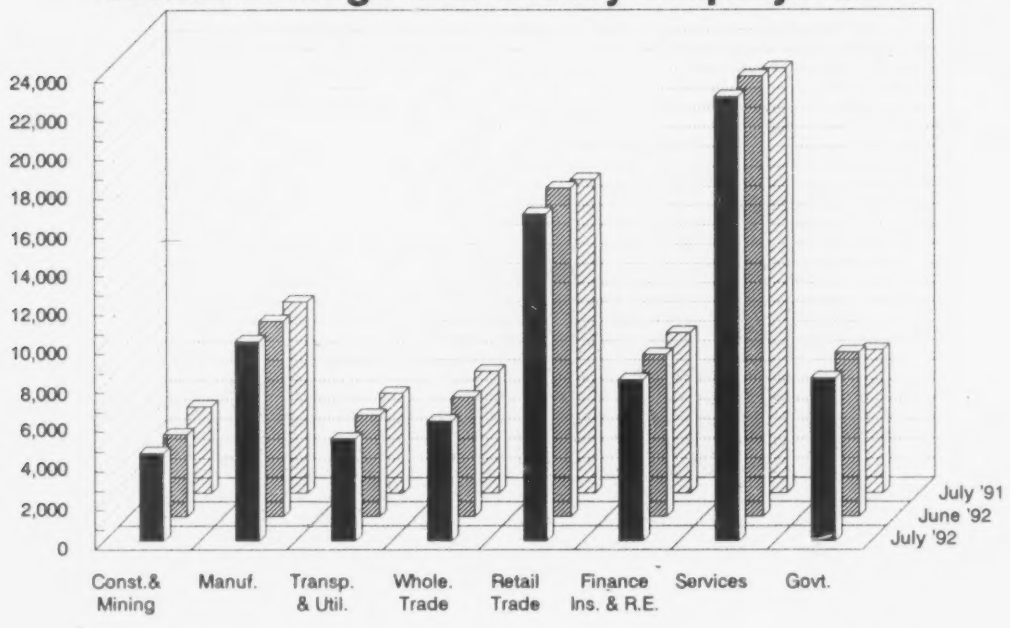
South Dakota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
TOTAL	**305,700**	**310,300**	**300,500**	**-1.5**	**1.7**
GOODS PRODUCING	54,800	53,900	52,100	1.7	5.2
Mining	2,800	2,800	2,800	.0	.0
Construction	14,300	13,700	13,800	4.4	3.6
Manufacturing	37,700	37,400	35,500	.8	6.2
Durable Goods	22,600	22,300	20,500	1.3	10.2
Nondurable Goods	15,100	15,100	15,000	.0	.7
Food & Kindred Products	7,800	7,700	7,800	1.3	.0
Printing & Publishing	3,300	3,400	3,300	-2.9	.0
SERVICE PRODUCING	250,900	256,400	248,400	-2.1	1.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	13,700	13,700	13,600	.0	.7
Transportation	8,300	8,400	8,300	-1.2	.0
Communication	3,000	2,900	2,900	3.4	3.4
Electric/Gas/Sanitary Services	2,400	2,400	2,400	.0	.0
Wholesale Trade	19,600	19,600	19,900	.0	-1.5
Durable Goods	8,900	8,900	8,900	.0	.0
Nondurable Goods	10,700	10,700	11,000	.0	-2.7
Retail Trade	62,300	62,200	61,500	.2	1.3
Eating and Drinking Establishments	22,900	22,700	22,900	.9	.0
General Merchandise/Apparel	10,800	11,000	11,100	-1.8	-2.7
Food Stores	9,200	9,100	9,000	1.1	2.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	16,900	16,900	16,900	.0	.0
Finance	10,800	10,800	10,800	.0	.0
Depository Institutions	6,100	6,000	5,800	1.7	5.2
Nondepository Institutions	4,100	4,100	4,400	.0	-6.8
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	3,900	3,900	4,000	.0	-2.5
Services	78,000	78,300	77,700	-.4	.4
Hotels/Motels & Amusements	13,200	12,700	13,100	3.9	.8
Personal and Business	8,100	8,000	8,800	1.3	-8.0
Medical and Health Services	29,100	29,200	28,700	-.3	1.4
Hospitals	13,700	13,700	13,300	.0	3.0
Health Services, other than Hospitals[1]	15,500	15,500	15,400	.0	.6
Educational Services	4,200	5,000	4,300	-16.0	-2.3
Social Services	5,800	5,900	5,700	-1.7	1.8
Membership Organizations	9,500	9,400	9,300	1.1	2.2
Government	60,400	65,700	58,800	-8.1	2.7
Federal	11,700	11,700	11,200	.0	4.5
State	16,400	16,800	16,400	-2.4	.0
State Education	5,500	6,200	5,300	-11.3	3.8
Local	32,300	37,200	31,200	-13.2	3.5
Local Education	15,400	20,000	14,300	-23.0	7.7

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[1]Not developed in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sioux Falls MSA
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

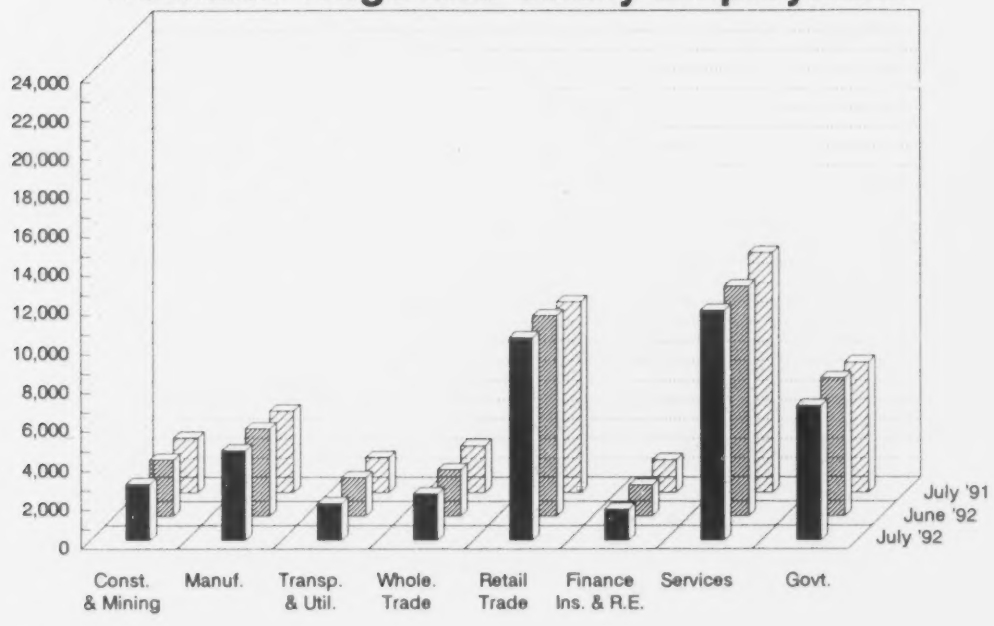


	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
TOTAL	**82,100**	**81,700**	**78,900**	**.5**	**4.1**
GOODS PRODUCING	14,700	14,200	14,200	3.5	3.5
*Construction & Mining	4,500	4,200	4,400	7.1	2.3
Manufacturing	10,200	10,000	9,800	2.0	4.1
SERVICE PRODUCING	67,400	67,500	64,700	-.1	4.2
Transportation & Public Utilities	5,200	5,200	5,100	.0	2.0
Wholesale Trade	6,100	6,100	6,200	.0	-1.6
Retail Trade	16,800	16,900	16,100	-.6	4.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8,200	8,300	8,200	-1.2	.0
Services	22,800	22,600	21,800	.9	4.6
Government	8,300	8,400	7,300	-1.2	13.7

*Mining employment less than 100.

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Rapid City MSA
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment



	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
TOTAL	**42,500**	**42,600**	**41,700**	**-.2**	**1.9**
GOODS PRODUCING	7,500	7,400	7,000	1.4	7.1
*Construction & Mining	2,900	2,900	2,800	.0	3.6
Manufacturing	4,600	4,500	4,200	2.2	9.5
SERVICE PRODUCING	35,000	35,200	34,700	-.6	.9
Transportation & Public Utilities	1,900	2,000	1,800	-5.0	5.6
Wholesale Trade	2,400	2,400	2,400	.0	.0
Retail Trade	10,400	10,300	9,800	1.0	6.1
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1,600	1,600	1,700	.0	-5.9
Services	11,800	11,800	12,300	.0	-4.1
Government	6,900	7,100	6,700	-2.8	3.0

*Mining employment less than 300.

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Hours and Earnings of Production Workers

	Number of Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
South Dakota						
Total Private	205,200	203,800	202,900	33.8	33.8	33.7
Mining	2,400	2,400	2,400	44.6	43.6	45.0
Construction	12,000	11,300	11,200	42.2	42.2	44.0
Manufacturing	27,400	27,300	26,400	39.9	42.0	41.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	11,500	11,500	11,400	37.0	38.3	38.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	72,000	72,000	71,500	31.0	30.2	31.3
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	12,800	12,700	12,800	35.9	38.0	34.4
Services	67,100	66,600	67,200	31.5	31.1	30.5
Sioux Falls MSA						
Manufacturing	7,100	7,100	7,000	38.0	42.6	40.5
Rapid City MSA						
Manufacturing	3,300	3,400	3,200	41.3	42.3	41.0

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
South Dakota						
Total Private	$274.79	$275.13	$271.62	$8.13	$8.14	$8.06
Mining	569.99	556.34	572.85	12.78	12.76	12.73
Construction	415.25	423.69	441.32	9.84	10.04	10.03
Manufacturing	352.32	361.62	355.06	8.83	8.61	8.66
Transportation & Public Utilities	441.78	445.81	434.34	11.94	11.64	11.43
Wholesale & Retail Trade	215.76	212.31	209.40	6.96	7.03	6.69
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	321.66	334.78	297.22	8.96	8.81	8.64
Services	233.73	232.94	233.63	7.42	7.49	7.66
Sioux Falls MSA						
Manufacturing	$362.14	$372.32	$358.43	$9.53	$8.74	$8.85
Rapid City MSA						
Manufacturing	$372.11	$377.74	$382.94	$9.01	$8.93	$9.34

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed[1]

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991
Total	2,149	1,969	1,866
Male	981	914	863
Female	1,168	1,055	1,003
White	1,763	1,621	1,480
Nonwhite	386	348	386
Under 45	1,433	1,296	1,306
Over 45	716	673	560
By Industry[2]			
Mining	12	8	9
Construction	137	151	134
Manufacturing	364	359	385
Transportation & Public Utilities	74	81	92
Trade	623	550	407
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	57	60	50
Services	832	714	643
Government	50	46	146
By Occupation[2]			
Professional & Managerial	557	421	451
Clerical and Sales	496	436	414
Services	396	347	330
Processing	57	72	46
Machine Trade	80	92	109
Benchwork	134	150	148
Structural Work	241	244	206
Other	188	207	162
By Duration of Current Unemployment			
1-2 Weeks	487	423	349
3-4 Weeks	296	306	264
5-14 Weeks	911	745	844
15 Weeks & Over	455	495	409

[1] The insured unemployed are those people who had worked for employers covered by South Dakota's Unemployment Insurance laws and who filed claims for unemployment insurance compensation during the week including the 12th of the month.

[2] Refers to industry and occupation involvement prior to unemployment.

Selected Labor Department Activities

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
Unemployment Insurance					
A. Initial Claims	1,804	1,620	1,462	11.4	23.4
B. Weeks Compensated	10,521	7,861	9,717	33.8	8.3
C. Amount of Benefit Payments	$935,255	$680,280	$666,391	37.5	40.3
D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance	$48,332,950	$46,782,833	$47,880,886	3.3	0.9
Job Service					
E. Applicants Available (new and renewal)	11,267	5,855	10,170	92.4	10.8
F. Nonfarm Placements	5,393	5,896	5,335	-8.5	1.1
G. Nonfarm Job Openings	7,327	13,500	6,804	-45.7	7.7

Take The Time To Do The Job Right

Production was moving at full capacity. A crew of enthusiastic workers was replacing the depleted inventory of soft drinks. It was a very hot summer, and the demand for beverages was unprecedented. The company did not want to miss sales because of lack of production. Every member of the crew moved quickly, and did their part.

The forklift driver just picked up a flat of full bottles of soft drink. After delivering it to its proper place in the warehouse, he would pick up a flat of empty bottles on his return trip. The next flat of empties was on the fourth level - approximately 15 feet high. The driver raised the lift, and drove the forks into the slots at the base of the flat. He then raised the flat a couple of inches to clear the bottles on which it rested. A co-worker told the driver that a case of bottles was snagged on another case on the next flat.

The co-worker began to scale the vertical wall of cases of empty bottles. He was young and agile, and could easily do this. He had done it many times before. When he was at the top, freeing the snagged case, the wall of bottles began to collapse without warning. The scene became an avalanche of broken glass. The worker fell with the glass and was injured.

This accident could have been prevented by a simple rule that required the use of a ladder to free snagged cases. Damage to property would not have been done, valuable production time would not have been lost, and most important, an individual would not have been injured.

Safety is no accident.

Technical Notes and Definitions

Pages 6, 7 and 8 - Nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates include almost all nonfarm wage earners (full and part-time) but exclude the self-employed. They are derived from a monthly sample survey of South Dakota non-agricultural establishments and include workers on the payroll for the week including the 12th of the month. These tables compare the current month's employment totals of the major industry groups to the totals of the previous month and year.

Page 9 - Average hours and earnings data are derived from reports of payrolls and hours for production and related workers in manufacturing, construction workers in construction, and non-supervisory employees in private service-producing industries. The data cover full and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The earnings figures are "gross" figures. They may be higher than employer wage rates, since they reflect premium pay for shift differentials and overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received; this is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

Page 10 - The data in the table at the bottom of page 10 are taken from the records of the state unemployment insurance program and the state Job Service system. The terms are defined as follows:

A. Initial Claims - the total number of first claims for unemployment compensation.

B. Weeks Compensated - the total number of weeks for which claimants received compensation.

C. Amount of Benefit Payments - the total amount of money paid to claimants.

D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance - the fund to which all required Unemployment Insurance taxes are paid and from which all benefits to claimants are paid.

E. Applicants Available (new and renewals) - the total number of different individuals who registered or renewed their registrations for work at Job Service offices in the state.

F. Nonag Placements - a count of the number of times during the month that Job Service applicants were hired by nonfarm employers.

G. Nonag Job Openings - a count of new job openings received during the month by South Dakota Job Service offices from nonfarm employers.

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South Dakota Labor Bulletin

Selected National Economic Indicators

	July 1992	June 1992	July 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
Consumer Price Index[1]	140.5	140.2	136.2	0.2	3.2
Industrial Production Index[2]	108.9	108.5	108.1	0.4	0.7
Retail Trade Sales[3]	$159,490	$158,653	$154,797	0.5	3.0
Privately Owned Housing Starts[4]	1,119	1,151	1,053	-2.8	6.3
Bank Prime Loan Rate[5]	6.02	6.50	8.50	-7.4	-29.2

[1]U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1982-84 = 100.

[2]Federal Reserve Board. Includes manufacturing, mining and utilities. 1987 = 100. Seasonally adjusted.

[3]Bureau of the Census. Adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading day differences. In millions of dollars.

[4]Bureau of the Census. Includes new, privately owned housing units started. Seasonally adjusted annual rates. In thousands of units.

[5]Federal Reserve Board. Annual rates.